

FANGS

EVERYTHING THE MODERN
VAMPIRE NEEDS TO KNOW

AMY GREY

A close-up profile of a vampire's face, showing its nose, yellow eyes, and sharp fangs. The vampire is looking upwards and to the right. The background is a dark red color with a pattern of small, black, star-like shapes.



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VAMPIRE NEEDS TO KNOW

weldonowen

A WORLD OF POWER AND BEAUTY AWAITS

FEARSONE AND IRRESISTIBLE, THE
VAMPIRE'S REALM ENTICES

Dare to escape the scratched confines of mortality? To elude the aging glare of the sun and embrace the night? To assume the mantle of a deity with powers rich beyond your compare? Turn away from the shallow superficiality of today's transient boredom: the perma-tans, the gloss and veneer. Snarl at the everyday, the every person: Become a vampire.

Vampires, lonely gods of night, ascend to a life beyond the mundane triviality of their fragile human brethren. Free from the binds of convention, they taste the taboo and explore the dark. Vampires are humanity perfected. They exude all a human desires: beauty, wiles, youth, gifted strength, and a hip-wiggling, siren-esque seduction in all they do.

Embrace the darkness as the vampires do. Despite their silent pulse, inside every vampire lies a true passion for life—a nightly celebration of their heightened senses and flawless beauty.

People think they know all there is to vampires. They have not bathed under the moon like you will. You will know the truth.

Meander across to the darkened path. Claim beautiful immortality as your prize.



WHAT'S YOUR VAMPIRE PERSONA?

What will you be like once you've made the leap from mere mortal to vampire? Does your vision of eternity involve gothic mansions or abandoned warehouses? Would you rather date, protect, or feed on humans? It's time to find out who you are—or who you will become. Take this quiz to uncover your true vampire type!

1 HOW DO YOU LIKE YOUR STEAK?

- A. You're a vegetarian.
- B. Only the finest, rarest cuts.
- C. Raw.
- D. Whatever. Food is unimportant.

2 WHEN A VAMPIRE APPROACHES, YOU

- A. Welcome her into your home.
- B. Expect him to kneel in deference.
- C. Wonder which faction she's from.
- D. Brace yourself for a fight.

3 THOSE CLOSEST TO YOU ARE

- A. Your family members.
- B. Your bodyguards.
- C. Fellow soldiers.
- D. Nobody really knows you.

4 YOUR IDEA OF THE PERFECT NIGHT IS

- A. Quietly watching over the one you love, even when they're sleeping.
- B. Being worshipped by your subjects.
- C. Polishing your guns.
- D. Riding your motorcycle—fast.

5 WHEN YOU SEE A WEREWOLF, YOU

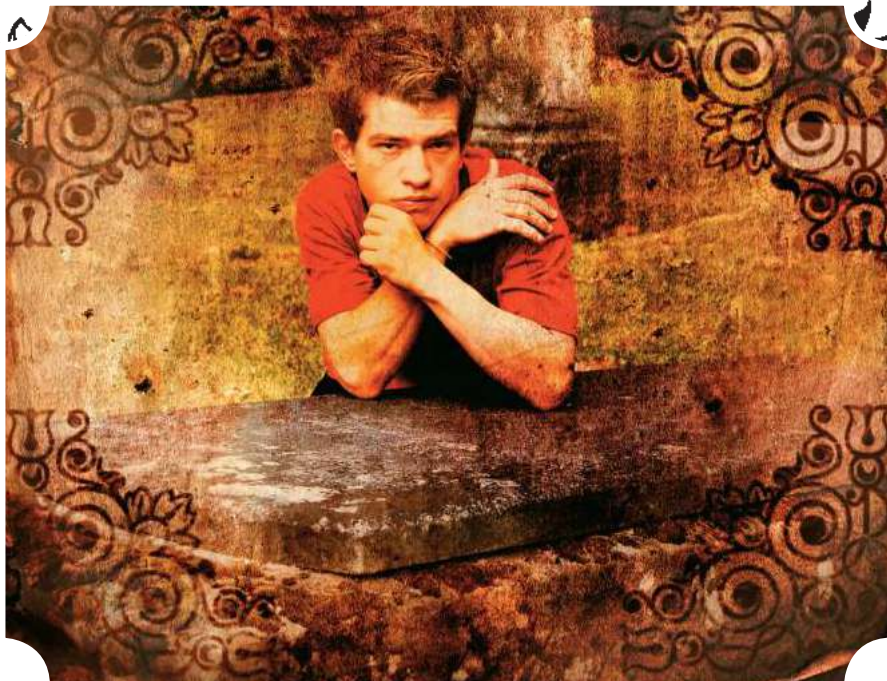
- A. Arrange a truce—but make sure your family has got your back.
- B. Do nothing. Shapeshifters are of little concern to you.
- C. Grab your arsenal of weapons.
- D. Fade into the darkness.

6 YOUR FAVORITE OUTFIT IS

- A. Whatever high school students are wearing this century.
- B. The finest gowns from Paris.
- C. Form-fitting black vinyl and leather.
- D. Motorcycle jacket, jeans, and big black boots.

7 GO ON, SHARE YOUR SUPERPOWERS. WHAT ARE YOU GOOD AT?

- A. Resisting temptation—and impersonating a teenager.
- B. As a master of diplomacy, you can smooth over any situation.
- C. You're a superb, unsurpassed fighting machine.
- D. You're an ultimate survivor. You live in the shadows and steal everything you need.



MOSTLY A'S:
YOU'RE THE FAMILY TYPE

Nothing is more important to you than family and, once someone gets under your skin, you will go to the ends of the earth to protect them. You may appear arrogant to outsiders, but only because you need to protect your sensitive heart.

MOSTLY B'S:
YOU'RE THE REGAL TYPE

You are a refined vampire, gifted with diplomacy and adept at forging intimate bonds with those around you. As a king or queen, your physical attractiveness and intelligence are outstanding. Both mortals and immortals are among your conquests.

MOSTLY C'S:
YOU'RE THE WARRIOR TYPE

Tough, bitter, and determined: that's you all over. You're a fighting machine who lives for battle. Proficient with weapons, you have joined the elite ranks of the vampire army. You enjoy spending time in loud nightclubs and deserted warehouses.

MOSTLY D'S:
YOU'RE A REBEL

You don't follow anyone's rules, mortal or immortal. You may hang with a gang of equally tough and iconoclastic vamps, or set out on your own, roaming the world. Mortals are drawn to your wild-child charm, but you see them only as a source of tasty blood.

FINDING THE PERFECT SIRE

It's an undeniable bond. Your sire acts as a parent, birthing you into a new life. Given the eternal ties between a sire and a vampire, it's a choice you must make wisely. You can find potential sires—both male and female—in a variety of places. Just be sure that the relationship is safe and is founded on mutual interest and respect. Vampire literature abounds with tales of cruel, selfish, and bloodthirsty sires who are doing no favors when they “turn” a mortal.

WHERE TO MEET SIRE

STAY IN SCHOOL

Your perfect sire may be closer than you think. Vampires that underwent transformation when they were teenagers still look young, and some even attend school so they can blend in with the local community. Take a look around—are there any potential vamps at your school?

ENJOY THE NIGHTLIFE

Vampires are often known for their cultural and artistic interests. Movies, concerts, plays, and performances usually take place after dark. If you enjoy a robust cultural life (particularly one that takes you to all-age dance or music clubs) chances are you'll eventually run into one of the undead.

DO YOUR RESEARCH

Vampires may have superhuman abilities, but there is one thing they're not immune to: flattery. If you spend some time researching vampires, you may find that your interest attracts someone with uncanny knowledge of vampiric life. One thing to

remember: Although technology can help you find like-minded souls, use the same common sense you would about any online interaction. Be sure to protect your personal information and be cyber-safe. If someone you meet online wants personal details or webcam time or pressures you to meet, they're not a sire, just a pervert.



POWERS

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

It's time to exercise your new powers as a vampire. But what are they, and how do you know when you've got them? Here are some abilities that vampires are renowned for having—and some tests that will help you evaluate and tap into your strengths.



Telepathy The ability to communicate psychically.
How to test: Focus on a willing friend, mentally project a simple statement or word, and ask them to repeat what they hear. If they successfully repeat it back, you're telepathic. If not, try this exercise with a more psychically sensitive friend. You may also find that you're able to listen in on other people's thoughts.



Shapeshifting The ability to transform into the animal of your choice at any time you wish.
How to test: Imagine your favorite animal. Visualize the way the world looks from behind its eyes and how it feels to inhabit its body. If you can feel your body begin to change, you've got the power to shapeshift!



Magic The ability to cast spells and glamours.
How to test: Start with a charm to see if you are able to alter memories. Can you put forward an alternative version of an event and have it be believed? Rare vampires have command of elemental magic. Can you light up a spark or make rain or fog?



Night Vision The ability to see in the dark.
How to test: Have a friend put items in a safe test area (either outside in a place away from traffic or indoors where you will not be disturbed). Check your night vision by going to the test area at night and note which objects you see. For perfect test conditions, the area should be poorly lit but safe for your human friend.

Strength The ability to lift heavy items and exert superhuman force.
How to test: Are you superstrong? Are you continually breaking things? Test your strength with some discreet exercises: How much can you lift at the gym? How easy is it to lift your kitchen table?



Healing The ability to regenerate your body on an accelerated time frame.
How to test: You never bruise or catch a cold. In fact, despite the lack of a tan, you're the picture of eerily good health. Test your regenerative abilities with a simple paper cut. How quickly do you heal?



Superspeed The ability to move at speeds quicker than the human eye.
How to test: You're the sort of person who's quick on their feet. Generally all vampires have superspeed, with a few notable exceptions. But how fast can you go? Tip: If you truly have superspeed, don't bother with a stopwatch, as it will take longer to start timing than it will to get from A to B.



Flight The ability to fly unaided.
How to test: No need to go leaping off buildings just yet. Do you dream of flying? Can you feel the lurch in your stomach, the weightlessness and exhilaration? Your body wants you to fly. Start off small with levitation exercises in your room. If you can suspend yourself in the air for more than five minutes or zoom down the hall, you have the power of flight.



SUPERNATURAL FOES

Unfortunately, vampires are not always at the top of the food chain. There are a slew of beasts, humanoids, and not-so-divine creatures who can threaten your precious immortality. Here are some to watch out for.

OTHER VAMPIRES

Sadly, the biggest threat to vampires is often other vampires. Petty squabbles, vendettas, and factional strife frequently result in vampire-on-vampire violence. Some especially nasty vamps become trackers and hunt down their bloodsucking brethren.

DHAMPIRS

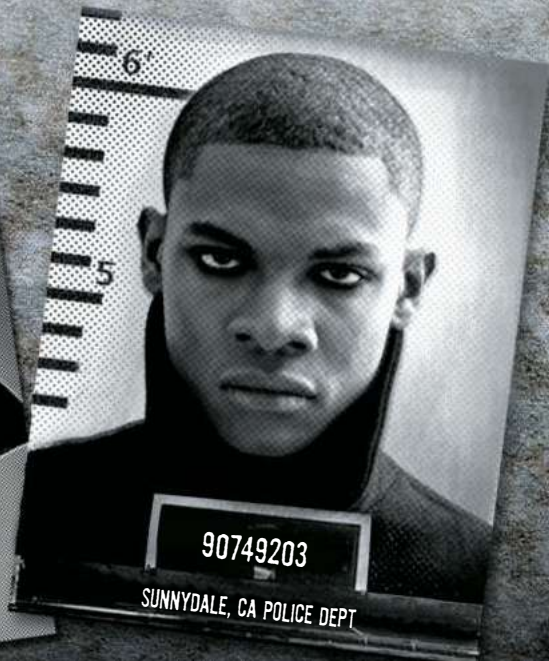
The offspring of a vampire father and a human mother, the *dhampir* has all the vampire strengths but none of the weaknesses. With their gift for identifying vampires, *dhampirs* act as hunters for hire.

DAYWALKERS

Exhibiting all the strengths of *dhampirs*, daywalkers are created when vampires bite pregnant mothers, transforming their unborn children in utero. Daywalkers have a powerful hatred of vampires and are dedicated to eradicating them.

SLAYERS

Slayers, females with enhanced fighting and healing powers, are mystically called into action. They generally hunt alone, though there are cases of a slayer surrounding herself with friends and helpers.



WEREWOLVES

There are tales of bloody werewolf-vamp feuds continuing through history, though some vampire covens have made treaties with werewolf packs.

DEMONS

Considered the pure form of vampirism untainted by human essence, demons can be deadly foes, as they have greater power than vampires and can kill them easily.

WITCHES

Dark or light, it doesn't matter; witches present a real threat to vampires. They can severely incapacitate a vampire through curses, raise demons, or cast the ultimate spell: resouling.

ZOMBIES

Given their putrefied state, zombies make for unsuitable vampire meals. Despite their undead status, vampires are susceptible to zombie attacks as well as zombie viruses.



HOW TO FORM YOUR OWN COVEN

Joining an existing coven can be difficult, especially if you're trying to forge a bond with vampires who have known each other for centuries. Some covens may have a reputation for snobbery against newborn vampires. Others may have waiting lists of several centuries. If you've looked around and haven't found a good match, perhaps it's time to create your own. Here's how.

DEFINE YOUR BELIEF SYSTEM AND PURPOSE

What does your coven stand for? Some covens are supportive and spiritual, others devoted to darkness. A solid foundation will help bring members together and keep them loyal. A good place to start is by defining your basic beliefs about the origin of vampires and their place in the world. Consider your feeding and hunting preferences as well as any special skills or interests that will help define your group.

DECIDE ON YOUR STRUCTURE

Will your coven be democratic? Or will it have one supreme master? How and where will you meet? Existing covens have a wide range of organizational styles. Which speaks to you and to the types of vampires you hope will join you? And because any group of vampires will sometimes disagree, you'll want to have a basic set of rules for behavior, for decision-making, and for entering and leaving the coven.

ADMIT NEW MEMBERS

Will membership in your coven be a closely guarded prize? Or will you welcome anyone who wants to join? Decide how you'll admit

new members to your group. Some covens have different levels or stages that new vampires progress through until they are full-fledged members with complete privileges. Let prospective members have a trial period when they can get to know the group and its workings before either one of you commits. Whenever you do admit new vampires, welcome them with an initiation ceremony.

VET YOUR MEMBERS

Beyond defining your membership guidelines, you may also choose to seek out vampires who have special, and useful, talents. For instance, a vampire gifted with charisma can harmonize the coven's mood at intense moments, and every coven needs a strong hunter to help find new hunting grounds and refine techniques.

DEVELOP RITUALS

Traditions and rituals deepen the bond between coven members and can also be an opportunity for vampires to enhance their spiritual or magical practices. Whether it's the full moon, a member's initiation, or maybe even the release of the latest vampire movie, decide what events are important and how you'll celebrate them.

CHOOSING YOUR VAMPIRE NAME

Many vampires like to rename themselves after they've changed to mark the beginning of their new lives. Often these new names are chosen to reflect a coven or personal philosophy, or are given to vampires based on their abilities.



THE RENAMING RITUAL

It's no surprise that the most famous vampire names are from Eastern Europe, home to the infamous Count Dracula and the region where the vampire legend rose from the shadows. In fact, the word *vampire* (*upir*) has roots in all Slavic and Turkish languages. But don't let this limit you, and

likewise don't let your lack of a centuries-old birth certificate keep you from dropping in a Count, Contessa, Lord, or other royal title for a regal touch. Don't worry—after a few decades (mere seconds for you), no one will remember when you weren't royalty. The document at the right lists intriguing options for both titles and surnames.

Titles for Men

Baron *Czech for baron*
Dominus *Latin for lord*
Greve *Swedish for count*
Imperator *Latin for emperor*
Marquis *or, for Spanish flair, Marqu ez*
Landgrave *a lordly German title*
Chevalier *French for knight*

Names for Men

Crnobog *“black god,” the Slavic god of evil and darkness*
Drogo *ghost*
Herkus *home ruler*
Ivan *variant of John, made famous by Ivan the Terrible*
Marko *warlike*
Nikolai *victory of the people*
Perun *Slavic god of lightning, his name means “thunder”*
Veles/Volos *Slavic god of the underworld, known for magic and trickery*
Vlad/Vladimir *rules the world*
Vodnik *Slavic spirit*

Titles for Women

Baronka *Czech for baroness*
Domina *Latin for lady*
Grevinna *Swedish for countess*
Imperatrix *Latin for empress*
Marquise *or, for Spanish flair, Marquesa*
Principessa *Italian princess*
Bantiarna *Irish countess*

Names for Women

Aleria *eagle*
Anastasia *resurrection*
Ashskhen *elegant*
Elodia *fortune*
Fiona *pale and beautiful*
Marishka *sea of bitterness*
Narcisa *sleep*
Roze *Lithuanian for rose*
Tatiana *precious, from a beautiful land*
Zofie *wisdom (perfect for the head of a coven)*
Zsizi *nickname for rumored vampire*
Countess Erzs bet B thory

INFAMOUS INDICATORS

Until you become a vampire supermodel, you’ll need a last name. Perhaps you belong to an established order or coven and can take its name as your own. Many covens acquire a family surname based on the leader’s former family name, such as Cullen, Boirot, or Torok. If you belong to such a coven, take your leader’s surname to show your allegiance. Older and aristocratic covens, particularly European groups founded in medieval times, use the leader’s

place of origin for their surname (Saint-Clair, d’Aquitaine, and di Pisa, for example). (Some, however, have modernized their names to avoid hunters.) Some vampires have been given nicknames based on their terrible strengths and cruelties. For instance, the Romanian prince Dracula was known as Vlad the Impaler because of his love of impaling his victims. William the Bloody maintains that his name originates from his love of bloodshed, though others point instead to his “bloody awful” poetry.



VAMPIRECHTURAL DIGEST

WHAT'S YOUR STYLE?

Since you've graduated from vampire finishing school, you'll need a place to call your own, and to furnish it in a style that reflects the immortal you. Some emerging vamps have found ways to integrate their style into any environment, even one shared with finicky mortals, such as parents or roommates. How will you make that space your own? Here are some questions to get you started.

1 WHEN YOUR NOCTURNAL PROWL IS DONE, YOU LIE DOWN TO SLEEP

- A. On a high-tech pod that blocks out those obnoxious UV rays.
- B. On a sumptuous bed made with luxurious, soft velvet.
- C. Wherever you can that's dark: a cave or crypt in the cemetery.
- D. On a couch that you found on the side of the road.

2 WHEN IT COMES TO ART, YOU PREFER

- A. Abstract paintings and black-and-white photography.
- B. Grand-scale paintings from the great European masters.
- C. Cave paintings.
- D. Out-of-date calendars.

3 YOU LIKE TO RELAX BY

- A. Going out to a rave and mixing it up.
- B. Taking in your favorite opera from your private box.
- C. There is no relaxing, only moving on to the next place.
- D. Just hanging out with friends and laughing—shouldn't be too fancy.

4 YOUR ROOM HAS A FIREPLACE. YOU DECORATE IT WITH

- A. Nothing. You prefer clear spaces and hate clutter.
- B. Heaps of fine silver candlesticks and mementos from times past.
- C. You travel light—there's nothing to put on the mantel.
- D. Improvised candlesticks from bottles and interesting objects that you found in vacant lots.

5 CLEANLINESS IS

- A. Essential—messiness shows a messy mind.
- B. Something that you leave to the servants to maintain.
- C. Something you never think about.
- D. You try to clean but always get distracted by TV.

6 YOUR PERSONALITY SUMMED UP IN TWO WORDS IS

- A. Powerful, intimidating.
- B. Reflective, wise.
- C. Compulsive, paranoid.
- D. Impulsive, disorganized.



MOSTLY A'S:
**YOUR STYLE IS MODERN
MINIMALIST**

If it's bright, shiny, and high-tech, you must have it. Your modern style shows in your cool and detached personality. Spaces must be clear of distraction and have only the essentials. Your car is sleek and swift, your wardrobe is the definition of understated elegance, and your personal space is so cool it's chilly.

**MOSTLY B'S: YOUR STYLE IS
GOTHIC GRANDEUR**

You were old school before school even started. Traditional and dramatic, you embrace the proud history of vampdom and prefer the finer things in life. Anything that is old and mysterious speaks to you.

MOSTLY C'S:
YOUR STYLE IS TRANSIENT

Unpredictable and dangerous, you are always on the move. Your wandering ways testify to your independence and refusal to bond with people, places, or objects. Your style is that you live without style—you are pure hunter—and where you lay your head is of little importance to you. As long as it's out of the sunlight, that is.

**MOSTLY D'S: YOUR STYLE IS
BASEMENT DWELLER**

You're a jumble of contradictions and it shows in your home. You're all about living in the moment, and despite great dreams, you never plan ahead. You Dumpster-dive for furniture, and your lack of money makes you great at improvised home decoration.



VAMPIRE PARTY

HAVE THE TIME OF YOUR (NON)LIFE

Now that you know about the best vampire music, you'll have vampires and vampire-lovers alike clamoring at your door for an invite. Let them in and host a feast for immortals!

DECK THE CRYPT

Release the bats! Hang rubber bats from corners and around tables to make your vampire-kin feel at home (or crypt). Drape black cloth over curtains, chairs, and mirrors, and fashion coffins from cardboard boxes.

PLAN A MENU TO DIE FOR

Steak Tartare Offer raw steak hash marinated with wine and seasonings, served with an egg yolk, capers, and toast.

Vampires partial to raw meat, especially those who can digest, adore this dish. If you make this, use the freshest and best-quality ingredients, lest your food-poisoned vampire guest make you his next meal.

Blood Shots Heat up thick, red tomato soup and pour into individual shot glasses.

Garnish with a fresh basil leaf and serve hot.

Bloody Sweet Bake a red velvet layer cake. Once it's cooled, spread jelly or dyed-red whipped cream on the bottom layer, then sprinkle it with fresh red berries. Place the other half on top and drizzle with a red syrup, preferably a berry coulis.

DRINK DEEP

Virgin Bloody Mary Fill a glass with ice. Pour in 6 ounces (175 ml) tomato juice and 2 tsp each Worcestershire and Tabasco sauce. Shake in salt and pepper. Garnish with a lemon slice and a stick of celery.

Fangria Mix one bottle of organic grape juice with 4 ounces (120 ml) each cranberry and orange juices. Add 2 ounces (60 ml) lime juice and 1.5 ounces (45 ml) sugar syrup. Add slices of pear, apple, orange, lemon, and lime in fang-friendly pieces.

Virgin Sea Breeze Shake up 0.5 ounces (15 ml) grenadine with 3 ounces (90 ml) each cranberry and white grapefruit juices, then pour into an ice-laden glass. No grenadine? Add superfine sugar to cold pomegranate juice and shake for a few minutes.

PLAYING A (NOT-SO) DANGEROUS GAME

Spray-paint some rubber bats gold and award "Batties" to the best performers in the following games.

Inside the Vampires' Studio Project your favorite vampire film onto a wall, turn down the sound, and get your friends to act out the scenes. Appoint judges to score, and then put on a less-refined version of the Oscars. (Just be sure to cap the acceptance speech lengths: Your winners could truly ramble on and on forever.)

Fangata Put glitter into balloons before blowing them up. Blindfold participants and have them try to pop the balloons with a fork or sharpened stake. The winner not only wins a Batty; the burst of glitter will also give him or her a spontaneous *Twilight* makeover.



FAMOUS REAL-LIFE VAMPIRES

These reputed vampires have stalked throughout history, their tales the stuff of wonder and terror. Many writers have looked to them for inspiration. But who were they? Are the tales told about them true, or are they just the panicky propaganda of a horrified populace? One thing is sure: Their bloodlusts were fierce and deadly.

VLAD TEPES (1431–1476)

The prince of Wallachia and heir of the Dracul, Vlad the Impaler had a definitive leadership style. While some of the horror ascribed to him can be considered rumor, some facts are known. His unquenchable thirst for terror is shown through such infamous acts as nailing hats to men's heads and his gruesome love of impaling his adversaries. One of the most famous woodcuts of this ruler shows him dining within a forest of impaled victims. The legend of Vlad is the basis of the vampire that we know and fear today, as he inspired Bram Stoker's *Dracula*.

ERZSÉBET BÁTHORY (1560–1614)

This vain aristocrat, also known as the Blood Countess of Hungary, supposedly bathed in the blood of her victims—who numbered as many as 650. An accomplished leader who protected the populace from advancing forces, she became infamous for luring young girls with the promise of well-paid jobs or etiquette training before imprisoning and killing them. Báthory was tried before the courts and bricked into her castle, dying four years later.

GILLES DE RAIS (1404–1440)

Known as the inspiration for Bluebeard, this feared warrior didn't confine his bloodshed to the battlefield. Discovered to have possibly killed between 80 and 200 children, this Frenchman cut a swath through France. Once a companion-in-arms to Joan of Arc, the formerly pious Catholic degenerated into a life of unspeakable cruelty and sadism, feasting on the blood and organs of his victims. Debate still rages as to whether his appetites were simply the result of madness or if his evil nature was occult inspired.

PETER PLOGJOWITZ (????–1725)

This eighteenth-century Serbian peasant is thought to have gone on a feeding frenzy for eight days after his death. In all, nine villagers died quickly and mysteriously, and all gasped upon their deathbed that it was the work of Plogjowitz. The well-documented hysteria prompted an exhumation with distressing results: The dead body was still growing and filled with blood. Even more telling, his mouth was smeared with blood. His remains were staked and burned.

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San Francisco, CA 94111
www.weldonowen.com

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Weldon Owen is a division of
BONNIER

Library of Congress Control Number
on file with the publisher

ISBN 13: 978-1-61628-395-7
ISBN 10: 1-61628-395-5

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
2012 2013 2014

Printed by 1010 in Huizhou,
Guangdong, China

Originally published in hardcover
by Candlewick Press

weldonowen

President, CEO Terry Newell
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Production Director Chris Hemesath
Production Manager Michelle Duggan

Special thanks to Ian Cannon, Kat Engh,
Alex Eros, Miranda Gregory, Emelie Griffin,
Sheila Masson, and Frances Reade.

Photography

All images courtesy of Shutterstock, with the following exceptions:

Corbis: 27 **Scott Erwert:** 11 (trees), 48 74 **Getty Images:** 111

iStock: 13, 23, 28, 35, 50, 60, 63, 82, 91, 125 **Sheila Masson:** 84–85

Picture Desk: 41 (*Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, 1997 / 20th Century Fox Television / The Kobal Collection / James Sorenson), 46–47 (*Salem's Lot*, 2004 / Warner Bros TV / The Kobal Collection / Frank Ockenfels), 49 (*Dracula*, 1931 / Universal / The Kobal Collection), 58 (*Dracula*, 1979 / Universal / The Kobal Collection), 115 (*Nosferatu*, 1922 / Prana-Film / The Kobal Collection), 117 (*Vampires*, 1988 / Columbia / The Kobal Collection), 118–119 (*Interview with the Vampire*, 1994 / Geffen Pictures / The Kobal Collection / François Duhamel), 121 (*True Blood*, 2008 / HBO / The Kobal Collection)

All image treatment and photo collaging by Scott Erwert

All illustrations by Scott Erwert with the following exception:
122: Juan Calle (Liberum Donum)

Front cover artwork by Scott Erwert